GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2656
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
OUTCOME OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION COUNCIL MEET
Murmu Shri Hemlal;Rajendran Shri P.;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Integration Council has held a meeting in Delhi recently;

(b) if so,the details of the issues discussed along with the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any strategy has been formulated by the Government to deal with terrorism,naxalism, communalism and regionalism affecting the country;

(d) if so,the details thereof;and

(e) the steps taken/being taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b): Yes,Sir.The meeting of National Integration Council (NIC) was held on 13th October, 2008 in New Delhi.The deliberations focused on Social Structure−Caste and Identity divisions and rhetoric;Economic development−Equitable development and removal of regional imbalances; Promotion of feeling of security among minorities and other vulnerable sections;Education-Promotion of education among minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;Extremism;Communal Harmony; and Other elements contributing towards national integration. After detailed discussions,a Resolution was adopted in the meeting which, inter-alia, called upon all political parties,civil society organizations, citizens' groups,religious, social and other opinion leaders, and the media to rise above narrow thinking or interests, and to act unitedly to defeat all forms of extremism and any attempt at division of our society on social, religious and communal lines.

(c) to (e): The Government is pursuing a multi-pronged strategy to deal with the challenges posed by terrorism,naxalism,communalism and regionalism affecting the country which include measure on the political,security & developmental fronts.To tackle terrorism,various measures being taken in the security fronts,inter-alia,include vigilance and patrolling on the borders to check infiltration and illegal cross-border activities,deployment of central forces to aid the state police forces in areas prone to terrorist violence, heightened vigil and security arrangements in and around vital installations, strengthening of intelligence gathering and sharing capabilities, upgradation and modernization of police forces,assistance for raising India Reserve Battalions, reimbursement of various types of security related expenditure the State Governments and taking various initiative for bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation to deal with global imperatives of terrorism.

The Government is following a holistic approach in dealing with naxalism,by taking action in the arenas of security,development,administration and public perception. Various institutional mechanisms have been established at the central level for review and coordination.An integrated approach is being followed for relatively more affected areas. The Central Government is supporting the affected States in maintenance of law and order.A new scheme aimed at filing critical infrastructure gaps in left wing extremism affected States has been proposed. Special attention on planning,implementation and monitoring of development schemes is being emphasized.

The Communal Violence(Prevention,Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill,2005 had been introduced in the Rajya Sabha to empower the State Governments and the Central Government to take measures to provide for the prevention and control of communal violence, and rehabilitation of victims of such violence and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.Revised Guidelines to promote Communal Harmony have been formulated and circulated to the State Governments.